

Wisdom in Watching the Ant
Proverbs 6:6-11
June 16, 2019

Consider the ant. (6:6-8)

Proverbs 6:6–8 (ESV)

⁶ Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. ⁷ Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, ⁸ she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

- Ants are self-directed
 - 1.
- Ants are proactive

The virtue of wisdom is not in being busy, but in having a correct view of future needs and opportunities for addressing them.

Consider the Sluggard

- The sluggard is short-sighted

Proverbs 10:5 (ESV)

⁵ He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame.

- The sluggard is sluggish. (9-11)

2 Thessalonians 3:10–15 (ESV)

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹² Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good. ¹⁴ If anyone does not obey what we say in this letter, take note of that person, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed. ¹⁵ Do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

Consider yourself

- *The sluggard sees work as an inconvenience.*
- *Idolater/workaholic worships your work or the results of your work.*
- *The remedy: Trust God!*

Psalm 127:1–2 (ESV)

¹ Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. ² It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Work hard, plan ahead, and then trust that what the Lord sends your way will be what He intends for you.